

K-4 Reid Hall, Washington College

1896;1929

Chestertown

private

Reid Hall was built in 1896 to house the Normal Department of Washington College when the state approved a normal program for women at the college. It was called "Normal Hall." In its original form it was a late Victorian building with a Mansard roof, $2\frac{1}{2}$ stories high, 5 bays long and 3 deep. There was a high single story verandah across the entire front elevation and large porticos at both ends. In 1910, the ~~Normal~~ ^{Normal} Department was abolished and Normal Hall became a woman's dormitory, the use it serves today. In 1922, it was renamed Reid Hall after the college's president at the turn of the century. In 1929, a 3-bay addition was made to the south end of the building, the verandah was removed and replaced by the present 2-story imitation Mt. Vernon portico, and both porticos were removed; the entire remodeling has largely mitigated the building's interest to architectural historians.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

MHT#
1500041602

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC "Normal Hall" (name it bore from 1896 until 1922)

AND/OR COMMON "Normal Hall"

K-4

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

Washington College campus

CITY, TOWN

Chestertown

___ VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

First

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

Kent

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

- ☐ DISTRICT
☒ BUILDING(S)
☐ STRUCTURE
☐ SITE
☐ OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

- ☐ PUBLIC
☒ PRIVATE
☐ BOTH

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

- ☐ IN PROCESS
☐ BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

- ☒ OCCUPIED
☐ UNOCCUPIED
☐ WORK IN PROGRESS
☒ YES: RESTRICTED
☐ YES: UNRESTRICTED
☐ NO

ACCESSIBLE

PRESENT USE

- ☐ AGRICULTURE
☐ COMMERCIAL
☒ EDUCATIONAL
☐ ENTERTAINMENT
☐ GOVERNMENT
☐ INDUSTRIAL
☐ MILITARY
☐ MUSEUM
☐ PARK
☒ PRIVATE RESIDENCE
☐ RELIGIOUS
☐ SCIENTIFIC
☐ TRANSPORTATION
☒ OTHER dormitory

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME Washington College

Telephone #: 778-2800

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Chestertown

___ VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

Md. 21620

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,

REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Office of the County Clerk, Kent County

Liber #: 334
Folio #: 224

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Chestertown

STATE

Md.

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE "Washington College Lands" Marion deK. Smith, surveyor

DATE

October 9, 1832

___ FEDERAL ___ STATE ☒ COUNTY ___ LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

Plot included with description of lands in Liber 334, Folio 224

CITY, TOWN

Chestertown

STATE

Md.

7 DESCRIPTION

K-4

CONDITION

☒ EXCELLENT

☐ GOOD

☐ FAIR

☐ DETERIORATED

☐ RUINS

☐ UNEXPOSED

CHECK ONE

☐ UNALTERED

☒ ALTERED

CHECK ONE

☒ ORIGINAL SITE

☐ MOVED

DATE _____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Reid Hall is located on the east side of Washington Avenue just across from the center of the main campus of Washington College in Chestertown.

In its original form it was a late Victorian building with a mansard roof. It was two and one-half stories high and was five bays long and three bays deep. There was a shed-roofed veranda across the front elevation which was surrounded by a white painted rail with turned balusters. There was a central wood stair-case. The veranda was supported by six brick piers. The center bay projected slightly from the main mass and this feature was amplified further by the pedimenting of that portion of the shed roof. That bay also included the entrance and staircase. The total effect was of a portico. There were also shed-roofed porticos at each end of the building and at the rear, all three with white painted wooden rails, newel posts, balusters and steps. Two chimneys were set into the mansard roof at the front and rear of the building.

In 1929, a three-bay addition was made to the south end of the building, all three shed porticos at the ends and rear were removed, and the veranda was removed and replaced by a ~~new~~ two-story imitation Mt. Vernon portico with six square columns. The columns carry a full entablature: the frieze is decorated with patera and rosette, and the cornice is set with dentals under modillions. The ~~top of the portico~~ parapet is decorated with a Chinese Trellis. The chimneys in the front were removed. The third bay from the south end was made to project slightly from the main mass to match the similar projection of the original portion of the building.

The building in its original and present form is constructed of brick laid in common bond. The windows have segmented arches and granite sills. There is a modillion cornice and pedimented dormers with segmental sash (3/6) in the roof, which is covered with fish scale wood shingles. The main entrance, which is now contained in the new projected bay, the third from the south, is decorated with a broken scroll pediment. Recently there has been a stair tower added to each end of the building.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

8 SIGNIFICANCE

K-4

PERIOD

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW

<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY) history of the college
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES

Built: 1896
Altered: 1929

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

Original: unknown
Renovation: Henry Powell Hopkins

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Normal

The building was built in 1896 to house the ~~XXXXX~~ Department when the state approved a normal program for women at the college. It was called "Normal Hall". In its original form it was an attractive example of late Victorian architecture, but its transformation in 1922 into a tribute to the home of the college's founder, has much mitigated its architectural interest.

In 1910, the Normal Department was abolished and "Normal Hall" became a woman's dormitory, the use it serves today. In 1922, it was re-named Reid Hall after President Charles W. Reid (1889-1903).

K-4

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Archives of Washington College, Miller Library
Unpublished papers of F.W. Dumschott, who is preparing a history of the college.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY _____

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE	COUNTY
STATE	COUNTY

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE
Robert Neill site surveyor

ORGANIZATION
Town of Chestertown/Maryland Historical Trust

DATE
February, 1976

STREET & NUMBER

TELEPHONE
778-0500

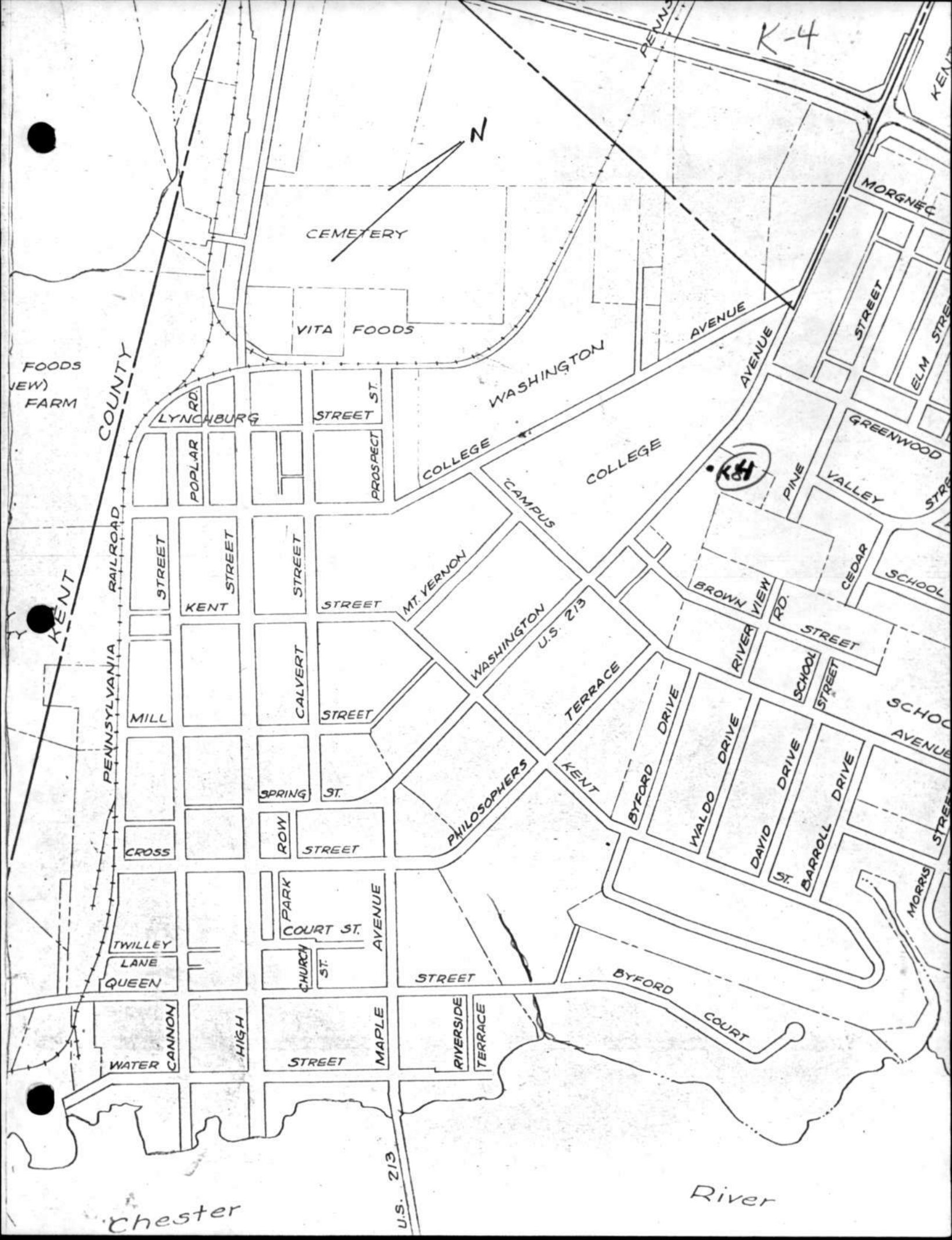
CITY OR TOWN
Chestertown

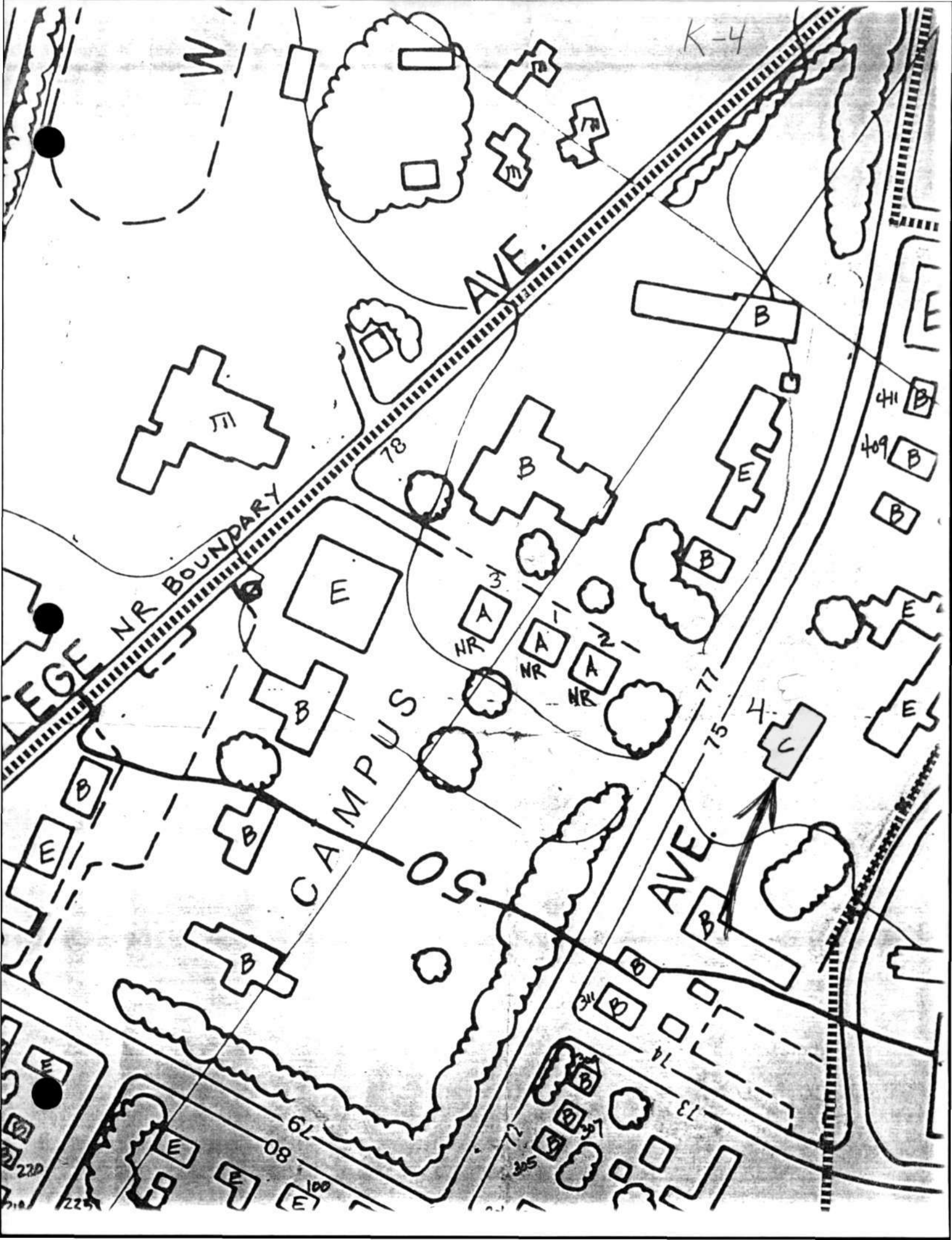
STATE
Md.

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 267-1438





K-4
Reid Hall, Washington College
Washington Ave.
Chestertown
Chestertown Quad.
Kent County





Photo: R. Neill

Processing: C. Engstrom